

**5.—Index Numbers of Employment, Industrial Divisions and Groups, by
Annual Averages, 1939 and 1949-53—concluded**

Industry	Average 1939	Average 1949	Average 1950	Average 1951	Average 1952	Average 1953
Public utility operation.....	54.9	100.0	101.3	103.4	107.5	112.1
Electric light and power.....	53.1	100.0	101.5	106.3	111.3	115.4
Other public utilities.....	70.0	100.0	90.3	81.1	80.6	87.0
Trade.....	61.5	100.0	103.2	107.4	109.9	113.2
Wholesale.....	60.2	100.0	102.5	108.4	113.2	116.1
Retail.....	62.3	100.0	103.4	106.9	107.9	111.8
Finance, insurance and real estate.....	67.8	100.0	105.4	115.2	121.9	122.4
Banking, investment and loan.....	62.9	100.0	104.5	117.0	125.4	125.8
Insurance.....	75.7	100.0	106.7	112.0	115.7	116.2
Service.....	56.8	100.0	101.0	103.1	106.6	108.7
Hotels and restaurants.....	55.4	100.0	99.8	100.9	103.6	104.4
Laundries and dry-cleaning plants.....	63.1	100.0	98.9	99.5	101.0	101.4
Other service.....	..	100.0	103.9	111.7	118.0	133.3
Industrial composite.....	60.1	100.0	101.5	108.8	111.6	113.4

Provincially, the most marked gains in employment occurred in Newfoundland and Alberta, expansion in construction being important in both areas. In Alberta, where the movement was at a slower rate than in 1951 and 1952, continued exploitation of oil and natural gas resources, with related industrial development, was also a factor. The general advance in industrial employment in Ontario in 1953 amounted to 2.4 p.c., while staffs reported in manufacturing increased by 5.2 p.c., raising the provincial index to a position slightly above the general level in Canada. Among the non-manufacturing classes, the trend was unfavourable in forestry, mining and construction. Prolonged labour-management disputes in the gold fields contributed materially to the decline in the mining division.

Despite a fractional decline in the industrial composite index in Quebec, factory employment in that Province rose by 3 p.c., to a level exceeded only by the 1943 and 1944 figures. Moderately upward movements were indicated in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. The greatest reduction in the year occurred in New Brunswick, caused largely by substantial curtailment in logging operations, in construction, transportation, storage and communication. The loss of 7 p.c. in 1953 brought the index for that Province to its lowest level since 1949.

Table 6 gives index numbers of employment in the eight largest metropolitan areas. Small gains in employment were shown in the 1953 annual averages for these centres but industrial activity in December 1953 was lower than in the same month of 1952 in all centres except Toronto, where employment reached a new all-time high for the time of year. Among the 24 remaining centres for which data are segregated in the monthly surveys, there were considerable variations in the movements of employment in 1953, with the changes recorded ranging from a loss of 11 p.c. in Brantford to a gain of 12 p.c. in Oshawa, Ont. and in Edmonton, Alta. Lower levels were reported in approximately a third of the group.